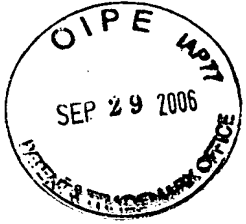


*[Handwritten signature]*



XA-9974

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Shinichi SHUTO et al.

Confirmation No. 9398

Appln. No.: 10/712,996

Group Art Unit: 2115

Filed: November 17, 2003

Examiner: J. H. BAE

For: MEMORY APPARATUS/SEMICONDUCTOR PROCESSING SYSTEM

\* \* \*

AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated March 30, 2006,  
please amend this application as indicated below.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing  
of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 12 of this paper.